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Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

JORGE HERNANDEZ t/a GEO PEAK ELECTRIC, LLC License and Business Permit # 12278

TO PRACTICE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Jorge Hernandez, ("respondent") is licensed as an electrical contractor in the State of New Jersey and was previously issued business permit # 12278 under the name "Amped Up Electrical Contractor". Respondent was trading as "Amped Up Electrical Contractor", during the time of the receipt of the complaint. Currently, respondent is trading as "Geo Peak Electric, LLC".
- 2. The Board received a complaint alleging that Jairo R. Castrillon, an unlicensed person, was using respondent's license# 12278 to perform electrical work for the Planned Parenthood building in Montclair, NJ. According to the complaint, respondent and Mr. Castrillon were once in business together. The Board's office files do not reflect the licensure of Jairo R. Castrillon to engage in the business of electrical contracting in the State of New Jersey.

- 3. Respondent provided a letter to the Board in response to the complaint. In the letter, respondent stated that someone may be using his license without his knowledge. However, respondent did acknowledge that he had a relationship with Mr. Castrillon. According to respondent, Mr. Castrillon "was not my employee" but that he "did conduct joint ventures with him".
- 4. Respondent appeared at an investigative inquiry before the Board. Respondent testified that he had a "joint venture" with Mr. Castrillon on the Planned Parenthood project. According to respondent, the Mr. Castrillon was not an employee, nor did he pay him with a W2 or 1099 form. Instead respondent paid Mr. Castrillon in cash.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The above findings of fact provisionally provide grounds for disciplinary action against respondent's license, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), in that respondent has violated or failed to comply with the provisions of a regulation administered by the Board. Specifically, respondent violated N.J.A.C. 13:31-3.5 by entering into a joint venture with an unlicensed person and/or business entity to perform electrical work for the Planned Parenthood project.

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on March 7, 2012, provisionally imposing a public reprimand on respondent and assessing a \$2,000.00 civil penalty.

A copy of the Provisional Order was forwarded to respondent at the last known address on file with the Board by certified and regular mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30h business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Following the entry and service of the Provisional Order of Discipline, respondent forwarded the civil penalty of \$2,000.00 to the Board. Respondent did not provide a written request for modification or dismissal of the provisional Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law. As a result, the Board deems respondent's payment of the aggregate civil penalty payment, as well as his failure to provide a written request for modification or dismissal of the Provisional Order, as respondent

not contesting the Board's findings. The Board is hereby finalizing the Provisional Order of Discipline.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this it day of MAY, 2012, HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. Respondent is hereby reprimanded, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-22(a), for violating <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:31-3.5.
- 2. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(b), for violating N.J.A.C. 13:31-3.5. The Board acknowledges that respondent has paid the entire civil penalty prior to the entry of this order.

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Joseph P. Schooley

Board Chairman